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BY EDDIE BAUER | *Sponsor* Sep 03, 2013

RICHARD WIESE TRAVELS TO THE MYSTICAL LAND OF THE HAIDA GWAII

Words by Richard Wiese, Images courtesy of Born to Explore

My father, who was a Pan Am pilot, instilled in me a sense of adventure and the idea that I was a cultural ambassador. My hope is that my book Born to Explore inspires curiosity and provides the necessary tools to discover and love the outdoors. While filming my show Born to Explore, the question I find myself asking over and over is: In today's interconnected world, is it possible to truly be alone with nature?

In an attempt to embrace the great wild, I recently visited Gwaii Haanas to film the famous giant carved poles of the Pacific Northwest. I was ferried to a remote site known as Skang Gwaii. Truly incredible, it is the resting place of very old, magnificently carved mortuary poles—and the home of the Haida Gwaii watchmen, an ancient and noble group. In a tradition dating back before the Egyptians by thousands of years, the watchmen have been guardians and protectors of the land and its heritage. It is a position of honor, as these poles are sacred and are believed to house the remains of ancestors and ancient spirits.

It was a chance to witness a living culture and to immerse myself in the spirituality of their land. Consistent with my escape from the modern world, the Haida carvings are very mystical, with a Lord of the Rings feel. Reflecting on the Haida people's creed that "all things are connected," I could see the wisdom of their words.

Reach Richard Wiese's full story at

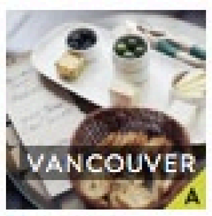
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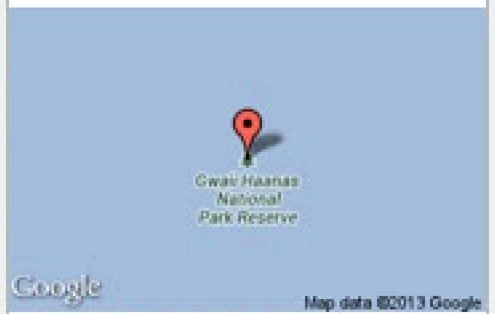
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Gwaii Haanas National Park Reserve
60 2nd Beach Road
BC, Canada



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Phone:
+1 250-559-8818

Website:
http://www.pc.gc.ca/progs/amnc-nmca/cnamnc-cnnmca/gwaiihaanas/contact_e.asp

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BY JENNIFER PARKER HARDIN

Looking for snowboarding destinations with great powder and located in walking towns (good food is a must). Breckenridge, CO and Whistler, BC are favorites but would love to try a new destination....

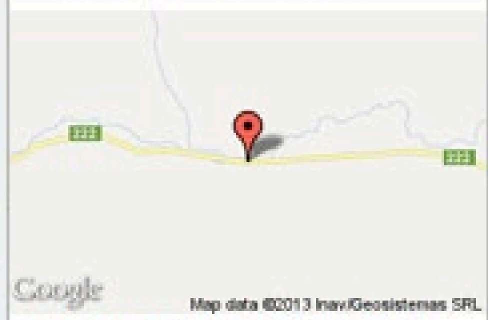
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Las Leñas
Las Leñas
Mendoza Province, Argentina



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BY EDDIE BAUER | Sponsor   Sep 03, 2013

LAS LEÑAS PERFECTO

Story by Reggie Crist and photography by Will Wissman

Rolling up on top of the Eduardo slope reveals a labyrinth of untracked chutes with the village of Las Leñas looming between our ski tips, nearly 4,000 vertical feet below. The conditions are perfect. Claudio, who appreciates the effort that Eddie Bauer has made to outfit his elite mountain staff in the latest First Ascent gear, motions to go, but nobody has the gall to drop in on our host. In response, he shrugs his shoulders and dives in, leaving behind a contrail of white smoke. As soon as he disappears, Coulter and Zach attack the main vein; Brian, Wissman, and I grab the right channel; Lynsey and Lel break left over the horizon.

Every turn produces an over-the-head face shot as I find myself laughing out loud uncontrollably. The snow is velvety smooth, making it easy to trust gravity and gain speed—until I merge into the main drainage where I'm blinded by a massive roost created by Zach attempting to pass Coulter. I quickly move left. Like changing lanes in high-speed traffic, it's all about finding an opening and stepping on the gas. Weaving around rock features, I instinctively gravitate toward a prominent spine and begin slashing turns towards the valley floor before launching a small air off the nose and into the gully. Just ahead, I can see Claudio raising his hands skyward. It's a memorable opener and quite possibly the best resort run of my life.

http://blog.eddiebauer.com/...

Tags: Malargüe Department, Argentina

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BY EDDIE BAUER | *Sponsor* Sep 03, 2013

FOLLOWING SHACKLETON'S FOOTSTEPS ON SOUTH GEORGIA ISLAND

I've heard plenty of knowledgeable and smart people state categorically that Shackleton's Endurance saga is the greatest survival story of all time. If you hang out in Antarctica, how can you not get amped for a 1914 expedition that set out to cross the continent on foot, instead got trapped for years in sea ice, watched their ship crushed and sunk by that ice, took to the lifeboats, fetched up on a ridiculously harsh and remote island, set off again with a select handful for 17 days in a tiny open boat on the world's roughest ocean, fetched up on yet another ridiculously harsh but slightly less remote island, and then somehow got three men across unexplored mountains and glaciers to effect a rescue of the 22 men back at the first ridiculously harsh island.

I've gone to South Georgia seven times now with the goal of repeating Ernest Shackleton's crossing of the island, and I've succeeded five times in getting across. I've ended up in some of the most powerful and dramatic storms of my life in attempting the crossing, such as trying to navigate mountain passes and big glacier crevasses when I could barely see the GPS in my hand through 70-mile-per-hour snow and rain. Hundreds of thousands of penguins, albatrosses, whales, elephant seals, jagged mountains, glaciers, violent storms, and the South Atlantic conspire to make the place unique and unforgettable.

Read the unabridged version of Dave Hahn's Shackleton essay in the Eddie Bauer Spring Outfitter Book at

http://blog.eddiebauer.com/...

Tags: South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands

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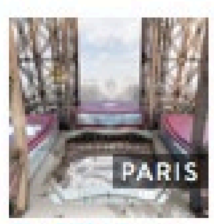
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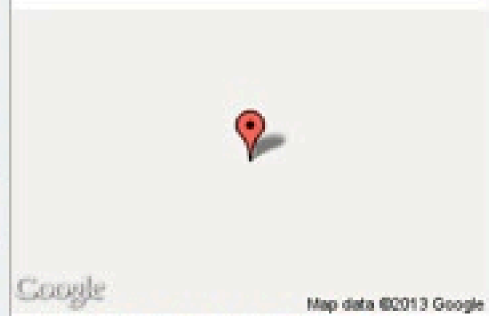
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South Georgia Island

South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands



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